

The Bethel Courier.

A Weekly Family Newspaper, Central in Politics, Devoted to Literature, Agriculture, Education, the Mechanic Arts, and the Needs of the Day.

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BETHEL, ME.

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The Bethel Courier.

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S. F. TRUE, Editor.

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Commissioner for Maine and Notary Public,
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THE SUBSCRIBER would inform
the public that he has recently
purchased the well-known House, and is
prepared to accommodate the public gener-
ally with good board and lodgings at rea-
sonable terms.

The above House has within the last three
months been thoroughly renovated and re-
fitted, and furnished from cellar to attic with
new furniture, and is a most desirable home
for transient business or pleasure.

Rooms are available in constant attendance at
the depot for the convenience of passengers.

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Surgeon and Mechanic.

DENTIST,
Main St. - BETHEL, ME.

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MT. BISON HOUSE,
At the Milton Mineral Springs,

D. W. ABBOTT, Proprietor.

For the Courier.
Letter from Washington.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 16, 1861.

DEAR COURIER:—I have just returned
from a visit to the Smithsonian In-

stitution, and as I think a description
of it would be a good subject for a let-

ter. I will endeavor to give to your
readers the principal points of interest.

To commence, I will give an abridged
life of the founder—James Smithsonian.

"He was a native of London, England.
In his will he states that he was the son

of Hugh, first Duke of Northumberland,
and Elizabeth, heiress of the Hunger-

ford, and niece of Charles the Grand,
Duke of Somerset. He was educated

at Oxford, where he took an honored de-
gree in 1760. He went under the name

of James Lewis Marie, until a few years
after he left the university, when he took

that of Smithsonian, the family name of
the Northumblands. He does not appear

to have had any fixed home in England,
but travelled much on the continent.

He is, by Sir Davies Gilbert, Presi-

dent of the Royal Society, said to have
rivaled the most expert chemists in an-

alysis. He contributed a number of val-
uable papers to the Royal Society, and

also to the Annals of Philosophy, on
chemistry, mineralogy, and geology.

and his scientific reputation was
founded on these branches, though from

his reflections he appears to have studied
and written on almost every depart-

ment of knowledge. He was of a sen-
sitive, retiring disposition; was ambi-

tious of making a name for himself, ei-
ther by his own researches, or by found-

ing an institution for the promotion of
science. He was never married, and

died at Geneva, at an advanced age, in
1828. He proposed at one time to leave

his money to the Royal Society of Lon-
don, but on account of a misunderstanding

with the council of the Society, he
changed his mind, and left it to his

nephew, and in case of the death of
this relative, to go to the United

States of America to found the In-
stitution which now bears his name.

The whole amount received from the
bequest was \$540,169. It was put at in-

terest, and after all that has been de-
voted to the building, the grounds, and

other operations, there is now on hand,
of accumulated interest \$125,000 which

has been invested in State Stocks."

These facts together with the sketch of
the life of Smithsonian, I have obtained from

an interesting narrative of the "purpose,
organization, and operation of the Smith-

sonian Institution," written by Wm. J.
Rhees of this city. The building stands

on a part of a tract of public land called
the "Mall," and the grounds extend

from Seventh to Twelfth streets, east
and west, and from the canal to B street,

north and south, comprising about fifty
acres. The center of the building is ar-

chitectural known as the Norman, the
Lombard, or the Romanesque. The ma-

terial used is a lilac-gray variety of Seneca
creek, a tributary of the Potomac, about

twenty-five miles above Washington.
When first quarried, it is comparatively

soft, working freely before the chisel and
hammer; but by exposure to the changes

of the atmosphere, it gradually harden-
so that the longer it is exposed, the hard-

er it becomes. The first story of the
main building consists of one large room,

200 ft. by 60, and 25 feet high, the ceil-

ing of which is supported by two rows
of columns extending the whole length.

Between the columns and the wall are
large glass cases, which may be used to

contain either books, or as they now do,
specimens of Natural History in the lov-

er cases, and those in the galleries,
Japanese, Indian, Chinese, Egyptian,

and other national curiosities. This room
contains the best collection of the larger

North American and European mam-
malia, both skins and skeletons, to be

found in the United States. In birds it
is only second to the collection of the

Philadelphia Academy of Natural
Sciences. Of fish, the Smithsonian has

a greater number than is to be found in
any other collection, except that of Prof.

Agassiz. Of the collections of 30 govern-
ment expeditions, those of twenty-five

are now deposited with the Smithsonian,
embracing specimens from the United

States Geological Survey of Drs. Owen,

Jackson, and Evans, and of Messrs.
Forster and Whitney; the United States

and Mexican Boundary Survey; the Pa-
cific Railroad Survey; the exploration of

the Yellow Stone river, by Lieutenant
Warren; the Survey of Lieutenant Bryan;

the United States Naval Astronomical Ex-
pedition to South America, the North-Pa-

cific Behring Straits Expedition, the Japan
Expedition, and the Paraguay Expedition.

There has also been received, from other
sources, collections of greater, or less

extent, all going on to complete the
government series. The Museum, tak-

en as a whole, constitutes the largest and
best series of the minerals, fossils, rocks,

animals, fishes, and plants of the entire
continent of North America, in the world.

Many tons of geological and mineralog-
ical specimens, illustrating the surveys

throughout the West, are endorsed
therein. There is also a very large col-

lection of minerals from the mining re-
gions of Northern and of New Mexico,

made by a practical Mexican geologist,
during a period of twenty-five years.

The museum includes, also, with
scarcely an exception, all the vertebrate

animals of North America, among them
many specimens each of the Grizzly,

Cinnamon, and Black bears; the Panther,
Jaguar, Ocelot, and several species of

Lynx or Wild Cat; the Elk, the Mexi-
can, Virginian, White-tailed, Black-tail-

ed, and Mule Deer; the Antelope, Rocky
Mountain Goat, and Sheep; several

species of Wolves and Foxes, the Badger,
Beaver, Porcupine, Prairie Dog, Gopher,

and also about seven hundred species of
American birds, four hundred of reptiles,

and eight hundred of fishes.

The museum hall is quite large enough
to contain all the specimens hitherto col-

lected, as well as such others as may be
added for a long time to come. It is

said to be superior to any room in Ameri-
ca, in capacity and adaptation for its

purpose. This may be proved by adding
that all the specimens before named are

in cases upon the lower floor, while there
is a gallery large enough to admit of a

duplicate being placed over each of the
lower cases. These upper cases contain,

as I before said, curiosities from many
parts of the world. Specimens from the

American Indians, Feejee Islands, New
Zealand, Samoan or Navigator Islands,

Sandwich Islands, Kingman, Marquesas
and Washington Islands, Australia, Egypt,

South Shetland, East Indies, Peru, Siam,
Japan, Valley of the Amazon, Africa,

and China, showing the manners and cus-
toms (costumes, too,) of nearly every

country on the globe. Beside these,
there are many other articles too numer-

ous to mention. No one could give an
adequate description of them, without

taking more time and space than could
be spared in a paper like yours.

We will now take the second story
"under consideration." The largest

room in this story is used as a lecture-
room. The optic and acoustic proper-

ties of this are unsurpassed by any
apartment used for the same purpose, in

the United States. It is one hundred
feet in length, and by occupying part of

the lower towers, a width of seventy-five
feet has been secured. The ceiling is

twenty-five feet high, smooth and unob-

structed, with the exception of an oval open-
ing above the Speaker's platform to ad-

mit the light. The general form of the
room is fan-shaped, the Speaker's desk

being at a place that would be the handle
of the fan, on one side of the room. The

seats are curved, so that each spectator
faces the platform, and the floor is also

curved so that the back seats raise above
the front. The gallery is in the form of

a horse-shoe. The room will seat up-
wards of two thousand persons, as is

known by actual experiment. Adjoin-

ing this, on the western side is the li-
brary; which contains about 25,000 very

valuable volumes, obtained by purchase,
donation, the copyright law, and ex-

change. But my letter is getting long
and tiresome, so I will close, and con-

clude next week. Yours truly,

NED.

P. S. The weather is very pleasant
and warm. I am writing this at an open

window. How is it in Maine?

[S]LANDERS, issuing from beautiful
lips, are like spiders crawling from the

blushing heart of a rose.

Uncle Jolly.

"Well, I declare! here it is, New
Year's morning again, and cold as Green-

land, too," said Uncle Jolly, as he poked
his cotton night-cap out of bed—"first

an inch thick on the windows, water all
frozen in the pitcher, and I an old bac-

chelor! Heigho! nobody to give any pre-
sents to—no little feet to come putting

up to my bed to wish me 'A happy New
Year.' Miserable piece of business!—

Wonder what ever became of that sister
of mine who ran off with that poor

artist? Wish she'd turn up somewhere
with two or three poor children for me

to love and pet. Heigho! It's a mis-
erable piece of business to be an old

bachelor."

And Uncle Jolly broke the ice in the
bath with his frost-nipped fingers, and

huttoned his dressing gown tightly to his
chin; then he went down stairs, swal-

lowed a cup of coffee, an egg, and a
slice of toast. Then he huttoned his

surcoat snugly up over them, and went
out the front door into the street.

Such a crowd as there was buying
New Year's presents. The toy-shops

were filled with grandpas and grandmas,
and aunts and uncles and cousins. As

they went to the shopkeepers, what with telling
tales, answering forty questions in a

minute, and doing up parcels, they were
as crazy as a bachelor tending a crying

baby.

Uncle Jolly slipped along over the icy
pavements, and finally halted in front of

Tim Nonese's toy shop. You should
have seen his show windows! Beauti-

ful English dolls at five dollars a-piece,
dressed like Queen Victoria babies, with

such plump little shoulders and arms
that one longed to pinch 'em; and tea

sets, and dinner sets, cunning enough
for a fairy to keep house with. Then,

there were dancing Jacks, and jumping
Jennys, and "Toppers," and "Uncle Toms"

as black as the chimney back, with wool
made of a raveled black stocking. Then,

there were little work-boxes with gold
thimbles and bodkins, and scissors in

crimson velvet cases, and snakes that
squirmed so naturally as to make you

as I before said, curiosities from many
parts of the world. Specimens from the

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and warm. I am writing this at an open

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[S]LANDERS, issuing from beautiful
lips, are like spiders crawling from the

blushing heart of a rose.

"Now, where do you live, little pig-

cons?—got far to go?—does all out your
shoes here in January? Don't like it,

—my toes ain't out my shoes?—come in
here, and let's see if we can find any-

thing to cover them. There, now, (fit-

ting them both to a pair,) that's some-

thing like; it will puzzle Jack Frost to
find your toes now. Cotton clothes on?

I don't wear cotton clothes?—come in
here and get some woolen shawls. Which

<

MISCELLANEOUS

to a growing tendency in the world to appropriate the most expressive words of other languages, and after a while to incorporate them into the Greek vocabulary. The word *headache* is from the Greek, signifying "for the head is now becoming a great headache recently," because it will soon be so. A more general name for the word *Cephalic* will become as common as *Rheumatic* and many others where distinctness is required. The word *headache* is a common usage until they seem "native and to the manner born."

"ardly Realized."

"I had an 'ardle headache this afternoon," says a student. "The word 'ardle means 'hardly' as in the man, 'Can you 'ardly believe 'em?'" "No," says the teacher. "Does it, 'ardle 'ard," says a student. "No," says the teacher. "I gave me an 'ardle," says a student. "I never dreamed you would say that. I 'ardly realized I had an 'ardle."

The word *headache* is the favorite sign to which nature has chosen any deviation which ever from the natural. It is a word which is viewed in this light it may be looked on as a safeguard intended to give notice of disease which might otherwise pass attention. It is late to be reminded; and its indications are

never be neglected. Headaches may be classified under two names, viz: Symptomatic (Idiopathic Symptomatic Headache is exceedingly common and is the precursor of a great variety of diseases, among which are Apoplexy, Gout, Rheumatism and all febrile diseases. In the nervous form it is sympathetic of disease of the stomach constituting such headache hepatic diseases constituting bilious headache of worms, constipation and other disorders of the bowels, as well as of the lungs, liver, etc.)

tion. Diseases of the heart are very frequently attended with Headaches; Anæmia, Plethora are also affections which frequently occasion headache. Idiopathic Headache is also very common, being usually distinguished by the name of nervous headache, sometimes coming on suddenly in a state of apparent sound health and subsiding at once the mental and physical energies, and in other instances it comes on slowly, heralded by depression

of spirits or acerbity of temper. In trust it allanates the pain is in the front of the head, over one or both eyes, and sometimes proceeding vomiting; under this class may also be named Neuralgia.

For the treatment of either class of Headache the Cephalic Pills have been found pure and safe remedy, relieving the most severe pains in a few minutes, and by its subtle power eradicating the diseases of which Headache is the attending symptom.

Barber. Missus wants you to send her box of Cephalic (sic, no, a bottle of Peppermint) Pills.—but I'm thinking that's not just it; there; but perhaps ye'll be after knowing what it is. Ye see she's aigh dead and gae we the Sick headache, and wants some more that same as relaid her before.

Barberist.—You must mean Spaulding's Cephalic Pills.

OVER EXCITEMENT, and the mental care and anxiety incident to close attention to business or study, are among the numerous causes of Nervous Headache. The disorder is a state of mind and body incident to this distress.

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Sick Headache.
CURE
Nervous Headache
CURE

Headache

They seldom fail in removing the Nausea and Headache to which females are so subject. They act gently upon the bowels,—removing costiveness.

men, and all persons of sedentary habits, they are valuable as a Laxative, improving the appetite, giving tone and vigor to the digestive organs, and restoring the natural elasticity and strength of the whole system.

The CEPHALIC PILLS are the result of long investigation and carefully conducted experiments, having been in use many years.

They are entirely vegetable in their composition, and may be taken at all times with perfect safety without making any change of diet, or with the exception of some disagreeable taste during which time they have prevented and relieved a vast amount of pain and suffering from Headache, whether originating in the nervous system or from a deranged state of the stomach.

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